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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Shinsaku INADA et al.

Serial No. : 1

: 10/696,024

Filed

October 29, 2003

For

BOARDING ENVIRONMENT CONTROLLING SYSTEM,

BOARDING ENVIRONMENT CONTROLLING APPARATUS, AND BOARDING ENVIRONMENT

CONTROLLING METHOD

Group A.U.

2632

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Jay H. Maioli Reg. No. 27,213

Date June 3, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

As a means of complying with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR § 1.53 and in keeping with the guidelines of 37 CFR 1.98, Applicants hereby submit information thought to be relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, Also submitted herewith is a completed form PTO-

1449.

This information was cited in a European Search Report dated May 21, 2004, and it is hereby certified that this disclosure is being made within three months of that date.

Applicants, through their undersigned attorney, hereby certify that, unless submitted herewith, no English language translation is presently available to those individuals identified in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) for any non-English language references(s) cited.

German Patent DE 10048394 Al, Keichi ENOKI et al., relates to a portable apparatus that uses a sensor to acquire a fingerprint image and compares the acquired image to stored fingerprint images to control vehicle installations.

German Patent DE 19801119 C1, Rainer STEILING, relates to a user recognition system that uses a mobile unit for sending encoded signals that are analyzed by two fixed units. The mobile unit has a data input device for directed vocal and/or manual input of data.

German Patent DE 10103044, Rainer Josef BERGER et al., relates to a biometric data detector which detects userspecific biometric information. The information is transmitted wirelessly to a vehicle-side transmitter/receiver. The vehicle may be activated when the information matches reference information.

German Patent DE 10042055 A1, Carsten WOCHE et al.,

relates to a car key that stores biometric data about the driver in the key's grip. The data is compared with stored data to release the steering column.

European Patent Application EP 1113405 A2, Bhusan GUPTA et al., relates to a fingerprint sensing system that recognizes fingerprints and compares them to previously stored reference fingerprints. This system may be used in automobiles to gain access to performing such functions as unlocking the doors, setting the seats to a selected location, or prestarting the automobile prior to entry. The same device that performs the fingerprint identification is also used to perform various other commands to deny unauthorized users access even if they were able to obtain the command interface device.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

Jay №. Maioli Reg. No. 27,213

JHM/JBG Encl.

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